

## CLAIMS:

1. A method for controlling an air conditioner comprising an indoor unit having an indoor fan and a heat exchanger that is involved in a refrigerating cycle, said indoor fan and said heat exchanger arranged in an air passage connecting an air inlet port and an air outlet port, said method comprising heat-exchanging air sucked through said air inlet port and blowing it through said air outlet port to control a room temperature, wherein

said method has an interior drying operation mode for drying the interior of said indoor unit, and

said method comprises: at the time of said interior drying operation mode, detecting room humidity (Rh) by a humidity sensor provided in said indoor unit; and repeating a drying operation cycle a predetermined number of times according to said room humidity (Rh), said drying operation cycle including: performing for a predetermined period of time, first heating operation which is weak heating operation with a compressor involved in said refrigerating cycle being operated at a low rotational speed; and then performing for a predetermined period of time, second heating operation which is heating operation close to air blowing operation in which said compressor is stopped, whereby the interior of said indoor unit is dried.

2. The method for controlling an air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein by changing the sequential order of said drying operation cycle, said first heating operation is performed for a predetermined period of time after said second heating operation has been performed for a predetermined period of time.

3. The method for controlling an air conditioner according to claim 1 or 2, wherein when said interior drying operation mode is designated by a remote controller, a drying operation cycle is repeated a predetermined number of times according to said room humidity (Rh), said drying operation cycle including: performing said second heating operation for a predetermined period of time; and

then, continuing said second heating operation for a predetermined period of time if the operation state before the start of interior drying operation is heating operation or air blowing operation, or performing said first heating operation for a predetermined period of time and subsequently performing said second heating operation for a predetermined period of time if the operation state before the start of interior drying operation is operation other than heating operation and air blowing operation, whereby the interior of said indoor unit is dried.

4. The method for controlling an air conditioner according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein a vertical wind deflector for changing the blowing-out direction is provided in said air outlet port, and at least when said second heating operation is performed, said vertical wind deflector is directed in the horizontal direction.

5. The method for controlling an air conditioner according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the number of repetitions of said drying operation cycle is set at a higher value as said room humidity (Rh) increases; when said second heating operation is performed, the number of transmissions of a heating 0 code to said compressor is counted; and said drying operation cycle is repeated until the count value reaches a predetermined preset value.